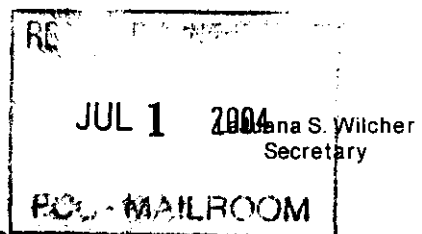


DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Ernie Fletcher
Governor



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615
Telephone: (502) 564-3940
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June 23, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Ms. Lisa Zaina, President
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Re: CC Docket 96-45, USF Certification as Required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Ms. Dortch and Ms. Zaina:

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 54.314 and on the basis described below, the Kentucky Public Service Commission (KPSC) has received an affidavit from a North Central Communications, Inc. (NCC) representative certifying that federal high-cost support funds will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

The KPSC granted the petition for ETC designation for NCC on January 27, 2004. A copy of the order is enclosed, as is a copy of the certification received from NCC. The Commission certifies NCC's compliance with 47 C.F.R. §54.314(a) based entirely on the corporate officer certification. This certification applies only for support provided in calendar year 2004.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Jim Stevens at wjstevens@ky.gov or at (502) 564-3940.

Sincerely,


Beth O'Donnell
Executive Director

cc. Main case file Case No. 2003-00397
Enclosures

No. of Copies rec'd 1
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AFFIDAVIT

Under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States, I hereby certify the following:

1. My name is Johnny McClanahan. I am employed by North Central Communications in the position of VP Finance and Administrative Services. In this position I am personally familiar with the manner in which North Central Communications will use Federal Universal Service support funds ("USF").
2. North Central Communications was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier by the Kentucky Public Service Commission in Case No. 2003-0397 by order dated January 27, 2004.
3. North Central Communications will use its USF for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254(e) of the federal Telecommunications Act. USF will be used to provide all services and functionalities supported by the federal universal service program as set forth in 47 C.F.R 54.101 including: i) Voice grade access to the public switched network; ii) Local usage; iii) DTMF signaling; iv) Single party service; v) Access to emergency services; vi) Access to operator services; vii) Access to interexchange services; viii) Access to directory assistance services; and ix) Toll limitation for qualifying consumers.
4. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.


Johnny McClanahan

Dated: June 22, 2004

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF NORTH CENTRAL)	
COMMUNICATIONS, INCORPORATED)	
FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE)	CASE NO.
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER)	2003-00397
PURSUANT TO 47 U.S.C. 214(E))	

ORDER

On October 8, 2003, North Central Communications, Incorporated ("NCC") petitioned the Commission to designate NCC as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. 54.201-207.

On November 10, 2003, the Commission issued an Order requesting written comments from the parties and other interested persons. No comments were received. A data request was also issued, and NCC responded on December 10, 2003.

NCC is a competitive local exchange carrier ("CLEC") with its principal location at 1574 Old Gallatin Road, Scottsville, Kentucky 42141. NCC provides local exchange service using its own facilities to approximately 1,300 access lines within the city of Scottsville, Kentucky. NCC's proposed service area will include study areas currently served by Kentucky ALLTEL, Inc. ("ALLTEL").

To receive ETC status, the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") requires a common carrier to: (1) offer services that are supported by federal universal

support mechanisms¹ throughout its designated service area; (2) provide these services using its own facilities (including unbundled network elements) or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's facilities; and (3) advertise the availability of these services through media of general distribution.

The Commission finds that NCC has met the standards established by the FCC. NCC currently provides services eligible for support by the federal universal service fund to 100 percent of the lines in the service area for which it seeks ETC designation.² In response to the Commission's November 10, 2003 Order requesting information, NCC responded that it offers these services through use of its own facilities. NCC has begun advertising the availability and price of these services using media of general distribution.³ NCC has complied fully with FCC guidelines regarding ETC designation.

NCC has provided sufficient evidence for this Commission to grant ETC status. This designation will benefit consumers in Kentucky by expanding the range of competitive choices and by providing an incentive for incumbent telephone companies to improve their existing networks.

The Commission, having reviewed the evidence of record and having been otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that:

¹ These services are: (1) Voice grade access to the public switched network; (2) Local usage; (3) Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; (4) Single-party service or its functional equivalent; (5) Access to emergency services; (6) Access to operator services; (7) Access to interexchange services; (8) Access to directory assistance services; and (9) Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. 47 C.F.R. Section 54.101(a).

² NCC's Response to the Commission's November 10, 2003 Order at 1.

³ NCC's Petition, October 8, 2003, at 4.

1. NCC is designated as an ETC for the current service territory of ALLTEL. Accordingly, NCC is eligible to receive federal Universal Service Fund support.

2. NCC shall offer universal support services to consumers in its service area.

3. NCC shall offer these services using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services, including the services offered by another ETC.

4. NCC shall advertise the availability of and charges for these services using media of general distribution.

5. A copy of this Order shall be served upon the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 27th day of January, 2004.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Wm H. I. Barker
Executive Director
spnty